

(54) PTC ELEMENT

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**PURPOSE:** To obtain a PTC element having the sufficient ratio of peak resistance/room-temperature resistance and capable of being operated by small currents when overcurrents flow by inhibiting heat dissipation from the surface of the PTC element disposed between electrodes and electrically connected to the electrodes.

**CONSTITUTION:** A PTC element consists of the laminate of two electrodes 3a and 3b and a substance 2 being held by the electrodes and having PTC characteristics, and lead terminals 4a and 4b are connected onto each electrode surface of the laminate. The cross section of the laminate is formed to be a spiral or meandering shape. According to such a shape, heat dissipation is inhibited while a contact area between the electrode and the substance having PTC characteristics is increased and room-temperature resistance can be lowered.

